

Regular Meeting for the Lanesboro City Council
Tuesday, September 7, 2010
Council Chambers at 5:30 p.m.

City Council Present: Dybing, Allen and O'Connor

City Council Absent: Rahn and Jeannette

Visitors: Tara Johnson, Jade Wangen, Robert Thompson, Brian Luna, Val Tindal, Lisa Brainard and Tom Manion

Public Hearing:

The public hearing was called to order by Acting Mayor O'Connor. O'Connor asked if anyone from the public wished to speak at this time. No one was present with comments. Vickerman read aloud four comments. Comments from Terry Neuman from Mrs. B's and Barb Soma from Amish Experience both felt the sign would be great and fitting for the diner. Scott Taylor was concerned about others trying to have lit signs in the downtown, noting that they have had opportunity to purchase lit signs but have turned them down due to the ordinance. Linda Hazel from the Down Home Building stated that she felt the sign would look better above the diner rather than a pole and was concerned with the historic timing. With no further comments O'Connor asked for a motion to adjourn the public hearing. Dybing moved to adjourn the meeting, second Allen, motion carried.

Regular Meeting:

The meeting was called to order by Acting Mayor O'Connor.

Allen made a motion to approve the agenda with the additions of appointing a library board member and the sidewalk/steps at the corner of Kirkwood and Parkway, Dybing second, motion carried.

The meeting minutes for the August 23rd joint meeting were approved by Dybing, second by Allen, motion carried.

Persons with Business before the Council:

- A. **Tara Johnson – Introduction of new Library Director:** Ceil Allen officially welcomed Johnson to the position and noted how delighted she was that Johnson accepted the position. Allen pointed out that Johnson has over 14 years experience of managing/directing a library. Johnson introduced herself and noted that she lives on a dairy farm and that she has experience in a school library and a community library. She noted that she is excited to be in this position.
- B. **Brian Luna – Torchlight Parade and Winter Escapades sponsored by the Chamber:** Luna asked for the torchlight parade to be held on December 12th from 3pm – 4:45pm and for it to start at the Stone Mille Suites down Parkway to the Community Center. Vickerman asked if a time could be pinpointed for the DOT, since they will ask for the time frame for the actual parade and that police services will have to be acquired. Luna thought that 3:30 – 4:15 would be a more accurate window of time. Luna reviewed the events for the 3 week escapades, noting that there will be trees lit in the park and a reading of "The Night Before Christmas". He noted that the first weekend there will be movies at the Commonweal, the traditional Dinner Dance and an Inn tour. The second weekend will have the Jack Frost Run, the Winter Olympics and Carnival, a concert and a parade, along with the medallion hunt. The third and final weekend will have music at the St. Mane and a bean bag tourney. Luna noted that more complete and final schedules will be out soon with all of the events. Dybing made a motion to approve the Torchlight Parade, second Allen, motion carried.
- C. **Robert Thompson – Concern with DOT not making the curb at Kirkwood and Parkway handicap accessible:** Thompson noted that as the state tore up the brand new curbs that were recently put in by the City to put in handicap plates, that they skipped over the worst curb in the City which is located at Kirkwood and Parkway. Thompson noted that it is a dangerous corner with steps and its slope. He said that if he was on the Council he would find out why they didn't fix this corner and request that they fix it and if they did not do so that he would go to the representative and senator and get some answers. Dybing made a motion to have Vickerman contact the State on this issue, second Allen, motion carried.

Committee Reports:

- A. **Park – August 16th:** Vickerman noted that the playground equipment and the tennis courts were discussed.
- B. **Library – August 9th:** Allen noted that the Library Board worked on the orientation for Tara. They also reviewed the summer reading program and co-sponsored an event with Bethlehem Lutheran. Allen noted that the Library Board is recommending the appointment of Krista Flaig, the school art teacher, to the Library Board. Allen made the motion to appoint Krista Flaig to the Board, second Dybing, motion carried.
- C. **Codification:** Allen reported that the group has completed the review and will now be bringing forth to the council a chapter at a time. E-mailing and paper copies were discussed to determine how each member would like to receive the information.

Housekeeping:

- A. Conditional Use Permit for Diner Sign: Vickerman recommended a vote on the permit at the next meeting due to the HPC and Planning and Zoning meeting at the end of the month to review. Dybing made a motion to table the permit until the October 4th meeting, second O'Connor, motion carried.
- B. Paying of the Bills: Dybing made a motion to pay the bills and to have Vickerman respond to the time frame that is covered with the Banyon invoice, second Allen, motion carried.
- C. Sales Tax Question Information: Vickerman noted that with the Sales Tax question on the ballot in November it would be important to get an information sheet into the October utility billing. Vickerman asked if any council members would be willing to help with the flyer. Allen and Dybing agreed to help with the flyer.
- D. Cell Phone Policy: O'Connor made a motion to develop a cell phone policy for the next meeting, asking to have a smart phone dollar amount as well as a base cell phone reimbursement, second Allen, motion carried.
- E. AT&T Tower: Vickerman reported that at this point she has not heard back from AT&T, noting that the site may not be a possible site, but would remove this item from the agenda until another request from AT&T is made.
- F. Safety Program: Dybing made a motion to continue the safety program contract with MMUA with quarterly billings, second Allen, motion carried.
- G. 2011 Preliminary Budget and Levy: Vickerman noted that the 2011 preliminary budget consists of minimal increases in certain areas and a continued wage freeze. She noted that the police department is requesting an increase. She stated that the levy now consists of a 7% increase but stated that it is a number to work down from for the December final submittal. With so many unknowns she noted it is difficult to pinpoint at this time. O'Connor noted that it is difficult to predict at this point what will happen in the next three months, but by setting the budget this way and being able to cut back until December that we can prepare ourselves for the unexpected. Dybing made a motion to approve the 2011 preliminary budget and levy and send the levy of \$442,720 to the County Auditor, second Allen, motion carried. O'Connor noted that he would like to have a discussion on the police budget prior to the December meeting.
- H. Citizen's Comments: No Comments were made.

Adjourn:

Allen made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:23pm, second Dybing, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Bobbie Vickerman
City Administrator/Clerk